

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/632,933

Examiner

Raquel Y. Gordon

Applicant(s)

TOMITA ET AL.

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Preliminary amendment filed 8/1/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9-23.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/538,762.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 8/1/2003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Acknowledgment of Receipt of Preliminary Amendment***

The preliminary amendment filed 8/1/2003 had been received and entered.

### ***Reasons for allowance***

The following is a statement of reasons for allowance:

Upon consideration, the inclusion of the claimed liquid ejecting device, as claimed in the combination, is not found in the prior art. This difference is considered patentable over the prior art and reflects an improvement in the field of endeavor since the following apparatus claim limitations reflect an improvement in the field of endeavor and over the prior art of record.

The instant application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/538762. With respect to the independent claims, the primary reason for allowance is, the prior art does not recite the claim combination which includes:

A method of manufacturing an inkjet head having a nozzle member, on a surface of which a water repellent thin film has been formed, said method comprising the steps of: (a) applying, onto said surface of said nozzle member, a coat liquid in which a methoxysilane or ethoxysilane compound which is a precursor or silicon and an ethoxysilane or methoxysilane compound which contains therein a carbon fluoride chain are dissolved; and (b) drying said nozzle member; wherein said compound which contains a carbon fluoride chain is one of the general formula  $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_n\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Si}(\text{OCH}_3)_3$ , wherein n is from 1 to 15 (claim 9);

an ink jet comprising a nozzle member, on a surface of which a water repellent thin film has been formed, wherein said film comprises a compound of the formula  $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_n\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Si}(\text{OCH}_3)_3$ , where n is from 1 to 15, dispersed in silicon oxide (claim 14);

an inkjet head comprising a nozzle member, on a surface of which a water repellent thin film has been formed, wherein said film comprises a molecule in which fluoroalkyl chains are bonded to or dispersed in silicon oxide, and wherein the density of said fluoroalkyl chain-containing molecule at the interface of said film and said nozzle member is less than the density of said molecule at the upper surface of said film (claim 19).

Further, IDS filed 8/1/2003 been considered but is deemed to merely provide art in the same technical background but not particularly relevant.

Further, an exhaustive search has revealed no prior art to disprove novelty or non-obviousness of the claimed invention.

Art Unit: 2853

Hence, the independent claim is now deemed to be allowable. The dependent claims are allowable since they depend from allowed base claims.

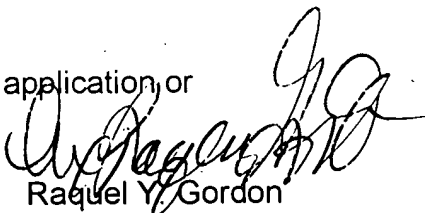
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Raquel Y. Gordon, whose telephone number is (571) 272-2145. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. A fax number is available upon request.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be directed to the Examiner or Supervisor.



Raquel Y. Gordon  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2853  
October 8, 2004